



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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Special eNews Bulletin

LEEC NEWS

2015 GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries' Environmental Education Commission (LEEC) is now accepting proposals for their 2015-2016 Grants Program. The submission deadline for each of these grants is March 16, 2015. Applications will be accepted via electronic submission only.

Educator Grants - Based on sound scientific principles, have an environmental focus, and be designed to directly impact Louisiana students - Those eligible: Accredited K-12 Louisiana schools - Maximum award: \$1,000 for 1 teacher or \$2,000 for a team

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Educator-Grant-Guidelines>

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Educator-Grant-Application>

Formal/Non-Formal Educator/Professional Development Grants - Based on sound scientific principles, have an environmental focus, and be designed to directly impact pre-service and/or in-service educators in Louisiana - Those eligible: Louisiana education, state, or environmental agencies, colleges, universities, or 501(C)(3) non-profit organizations - Maximum award: \$2,500

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Professional-Development-Grant-Guidelines>

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Professional-Development-Grant-Application>

University Research Grants - Post-graduate research with a focus on environmental issues - Those eligible: Students attending Louisiana colleges or universities and who are working toward a Masters, Ph.D., or conducting Ph.D. research are eligible to apply on behalf of their school - Maximum award: \$1,200

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Research-Grant-Guidelines>

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Research-Grant-Application>

For more information on these grants or the 2015 Environmental Education State Symposium, visit our website at: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/eec>.

Or contact: Venise Ortego, Environmental Education Coordinator Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries vortego@wlf.la.gov.

KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL HEALTHY COMMUNITIES GRANTS

Keep Louisiana Beautiful's Healthy Communities grants program will be accepting grant application now until April 10, 2015. Non-profit organizations, youth groups, schools and municipalities are encouraged to apply. Grants vary from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

The grant program is designed to encourage community action in the specific areas of litter abatement, waste reduction, education and environmental stewardship, training, litter enforcement, and recycling.

Download the grant application at www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org. Questions - contact Sarah Kelley at skelley@keeplouisianabeautiful.org or 318-780-4416.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

VOLUNTARY INITIATIVE PROMISES TO IMPROVE AQUATIC HABITAT HEALTH

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the automotive industry recently signed an agreement to reduce the use of copper and other materials in motor vehicle brake pads. The Copper-Free Brake Initiative calls for cutting copper in brake pads to less than 5 percent by 2021 and 0.5 percent by 2025. This voluntary initiative also calls for cutting the amount of mercury, lead, cadmium, asbestiform fibers and chromium-6 salts in motor vehicle brake pads. These steps will decrease runoff of these materials from roads into the nation's streams, rivers and lakes, where these materials can harm fish, amphibians and plants.

LAKE FEST MUSIC FESTIVAL SET FOR APRIL 18

Join the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation on April 18, 2015 in Metairie at the Bucktown Marina for a fantastic music festival featuring terrific local music and delicious New Orleans food! You'll also find a great kids' area and unique arts & crafts! Call 504-836-2205 to become a sponsor or food or craft vendor.

In the meantime, basin area residents are gearing up for their "Spring Cleaning" event to be held March 21, 2015 from 9 to noon. Call 504-836-2238 now to sign up your group or call 504-836-2205 to become a sponsor.

Visit <http://saveourlake.org/> for more information.

LAGNIAPPE

STORM SURGE INUNDATION MAP REVEALS VULNERABILITY OF LOUISIANA COAST

A new interactive map published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, intended to illustrate current worst-case coastal storm surge or inundation scenarios derived from hurricanes, and 100 and 500 year flood plains from the Federal Emergency Management Agency graphically illustrate how vulnerable the Bayou State has become. The "Category 5 SLOSH" model in particular predicts impacts all the way up to the I-10 corridor. See the map at <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/climate/stormsurge.cfm>.

NATURAL AREAS REGISTRY "BLUESTEM" NEWSLETTER WINTER ISSUE AVAILABLE

The winter issue of the Louisiana Natural Areas Registry newsletter, called BLUESTEM, is available now. Two articles of particular interest include one that highlights efforts to preserve the endangered gopher tortoise, and another that addresses the threat of invasive Chinese parasol trees. Find the newsletter at http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/38849-bluestem-newsletter-fall-winter-2014/bluestem_winter_2014.pdf.

SHAPE OF LIFE VIDEO SERIES AVAILABLE ONLINE

Shape of Life is a series of FREE short classroom videos that beautifully illustrate the evolution of the animal kingdom on planet earth. Based upon an original PBS Series, Shape of Life is especially designed for students and teachers who want a first-hand account of how animals adapt and thrive. The series is NGSS aligned with exquisite focus on diversity, biodiversity, adaptability, body structure, design, behaviors, and the innovative scientists who explore these creatures.

Visit <http://www.shapeoflife.org/>.

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LouisianaEnvironmentalEducationCommission